

preference in his favour. A little boy, whose name was Charles Nichols, came up to master Smith, and told him, he remembered he had once the honour of playing with him at Mr. Jones's, and therefore he took the liberty of asking him how he did. The child was perfectly neat and clean: he was not handsome, but there was so much sweetness and good-nature expressed in his countenance, and so much politeness and complaisance in his behaviour, that he gained the love and esteem of every good person. Master Smith thought himself so much superior to this little boy, who happened to be poor, that he scarcely answered him, which Mr. Allworthy observing, said to Charles, I think my dear I heard you mention your having had the *honour* of playing with master Smith; remember, my love,
it

it can confer no honour on any one to play with a naughty boy: the poorest child, if he be good and humble, is far superior to the richest, who is naughty. He who thinks very highly of himself, will certainly be brought to shame. Master Smith coloured and felt ashamed.

Mr. Allworthy then began his enquiry. Several of the children had in different characters, but some were tolerable good. Master Thompson was acknowledged to be the best boy who had been yet examined; an old servant, who had been his nurse-maid, assured Mr. Allworthy, that in his mamma's absence, when she had the care of him, she never desired him twice to do any thing. It was now master Smith's turn: Mr. Allworthy asked, if he was dutiful to his parent. Mrs. Smith only answered with a sigh; he then
desired